

WHY I AM FOR BRYAN

For the first time in history a president or the United States is openly and flagrantly seeking to name his successor. He is even interfering in state politics, having dictated his party's candidate for governor of New York. This was attempted by one other president in forcing the nomination of Charles J. Folger, but was signally rebuked at the polls. Mr. Roosevelt goes much farther and tries to take from the American electorate the free choice of president, their highest symbol of sovereignty. If he succeeds, there is no reason why Taft should not dictate his successor, and so on indefinitely. This method has more dangerous possibilities than even a third term, for one man's tenure of the office would some time be terminated by death, while the dictation of a successor may be made to form an endless chain that would take the choice of their ruler from the people forever.

On the other hand the nomination of William J. Bryan came from the rank and file of his party. Everybody knows this. Mr. Bryan has not only pledged himself not to accept a second term, but all who have studied his character and career know him incapable of interfering even in the slightest degree in his choice of a president to succeed him. Mr. Bryan is a fundamental democrat. He stands for the same kind of Americanism and popular rule of which Jefferson and Lincoln were advocates. He understands that a people, like an individual, gain strength by using it, develop their own initiative by being thrown on their own resources and learn to respect themselves by being taught to think themselves each as good as another. He has learned from history that when the masses depend on a man or an institution to rule them and think for them, their own powers become atrophied; but that after every awakening of the spirit of democracy has come an era of invention, hope and progress.

If Mr. Taft should be elected he would feel that he owed the office not to the American people, but to Theodore Roosevelt. He himself has never been brought into close touch with the masses either by birth or training. I was recently told by an officer high in the United States Army, who was formerly stationed in the Philippines, that while governor, Mr. Taft gave a rather remarkable order. In the most fashionable park in Manila, the military band played of evenings. Governor Taft ordered General Chaffee to keep private soldiers out of this park between the hours of 6 and 8. Chaffee, like a good American, ordered all soldiers, including band and officers, to stay out of the park in the interdicted hours. Taft thereupon rescinded his order. He has shown the same attitude toward the common people in his injunctions against workmen, his treatment of the Brownsville soldiers, his attempt to introduce Chinese and other foreign labor at Panama and in similar ways. Though an office holder all his life, he has been elected to but one position and to that he had previously been appointed by Governor Foraker. These things are mentioned only to show that his associations have not brought him into sympathy with the people, and his connection with this has taken him still farther from them.

Mr. Bryan stands for a truer Americanism than his opponent in another sense. The present tariff enables our manufacturers to sell to foreigners cheaper than they do to their home people. Any party that permits this is not a good American party. The trusts are largely the products of an excessive tariff and to pretend to oppose trusts while leaving these duties on trust-made products is the most transparent hypocrisy. The schedules on timber, lumber, wood pulp and paper not only work a hardship on all builders and all who have but threaten the early destruction of our American forests. Neither the republican candidate nor the republican platform offers the slightest hope of relief from these or other tariff burdens, while the democratic platform and candidate specifically promise such relief. The vague pledge of the republican platform for some sort of revision, after the next president is inaugurated, is too much like the promise of publicity of campaign contributions after election. If either revision of or publicity is good, why not now?

A favorite republican argument in the past has been that their opponents were obstructionists, that they took up old republican issues and that they created hard times. In this campaign the shoe is on the other foot. Of the really good measures proposed by President Roosevelt, the republicans in congress were the obstructionists, the democrats generally supporting him. As for the purloining of issues, this is a rather painful subject in the White House and should not be treated lightly. It is a fact, however, that since Roosevelt has stolen so many of Bryan's ideas, the American people have concluded to let Bryan himself complete the

work of putting them in force. The subject of a panic is equally tender with the present administration, for the reason that it now has one of its own to explain. As a matter of fact, of the three great panics known in this country in the last forty years, two were wholly under republican auspices and the third of republican origin.

Moreover, Mr. Bryan now offers a plan, already in successful operation in Oklahoma, that would put an end to the worst features of financial panics, if it did not do away with them altogether. This is the guarantee of bank deposits. Under this plan a run on the banks would be impossible and a run on the banks has precipitated practically every panic in our history.

One reason for the present hard times is that the administration in its campaign against the trusts and railroads has indulged in so much noise and indiscriminate denunciations that it frightened honest business men as much as it did the dishonest. The democratic plan, on the other hand, is to put the trust criminals in jail and so encourage all fair and lawful business men. With the railroads, it would follow the LaFollette idea of determining the actual value of the roads as the only just basis for making rates. This tangible and definite program would accomplish something, whereas the present method has accomplished little except to make the innocent suffer more than the guilty. To prosecute and imprison actual malefactors and to place stocks on a sound basis would not hurt but help all honest business.

Taken all in all, the most hopeful movement in this age is that of organized labor. By its support of the just contentions of the toilers democracy has merited the support in turn of all true friends of human rights and progress. Against the tyranny of inferior federal courts—courts that owe their powers alone to congress—it has raised an honest protest. It demands that the workers be treated exactly like all other citizens. It favors trial by jury in cases of indirect contempt of court. The Anglo-Saxon race fought for centuries to gain the right of trial by jury. Are we to deny to our own workers the protection gained by our fathers for all men?

To win the support of labor the republicans adopted a plank demanding a law already in existence. This clumsy fraud lost them the support of working men and gained the contempt of both sides.

Nine-tenths of the American people, without question, believe in the election of United States senators by popular vote. Nine-tenths of the republican convention rejected a plank embodying that idea. The present system breeds scandals, deadlocks and senatorial trust agents. Platt and Dewey are sample fruits of the tree. Mr. Taft says that this is not a political issue, but the republican convention by its condemnation of the plank says that it is. The democrats favor popular election of senators and that is one more reason why the believers in a people's government should vote for Bryan.

A party is responsible for its representatives in congress as well as for those it places in the executive department. Under the present regime Joseph C. Cannon absolutely rules the house and Nelson W. Aldrich, the senate. Both are notorious as reactionaries and agents of special interests. A vote for the republican ticket is an indirect vote for Cannon and Aldrich.

When Roosevelt recently rushed into the newspapers to save his cabinet officer, whom he is trying to appoint president of the United States, Mr. Bryan wanted to know whether he was running against one or two candidates. As a matter of fact, he seems to be running against four, since the attitude of both Watson and Hearst—or rather Hearst's nominee, Hisgen—indicates that they are in the field to help Taft. All their fight is against Bryan. Are they so afraid of his success that they must combine and so betray their secret alliance? Ex-Senator Pettigrew recently charged that Watson had received his campaign funds from the republican national committee and Watson in reply said as to the truth of the charge he "neither knew nor cared." John T. Cronin, a former organizer of the independence league, has made the same charge as to Hearst and backed it up by letters and other direct evidence. A fact that would seem to strengthen that charge is that Hearst has had nothing to say against the republican candidate, although it used to be an open secret about his newspaper offices that he had a pigeon hole full of matter very damaging to Mr. Taft. Why does he not use it?

From all such politics and politicianisms one turns with relief to a character like that of William J. Bryan. In a long life in politics and newspaper work I have known many men. I say it not because Mr. Bryan is a candidate for president, but because I sincerely believe it true, that take him all in all he is the greatest and best man I ever knew. His very in-

fluence is such that I defy any man to utter a profane or impure word in his presence. His power is shown by the fact that even out of office he has been able to force so many of his measures on a reluctant and opposing party. How much greater would be his influence for good in the White House!

The only charge against Bryan is that he has abandoned one or two issues. So have his opponents. They say he has dropped silver. What of it? The republicans have dropped many of their contentions on the financial question. Bryan's chief idea in the silver fight—the quantitative theory of money—the republicans have accepted in recent legislation. Time and the discovery of gold mines have eliminated the silver issue, not either Bryan or his opponents.

In the same way they charge him with dropping anti-imperialism. As a matter of fact the administration has recently come fully to Bryan's position on this question, promising ultimate independence to the Philippines.

They charge him with having dropped government ownership of railroads. As a matter of fact, Roosevelt himself said that government ownership would come if the railroads did not accept government control. He asked in effect that the idea of ownership be held in abeyance until his plan of supervision had a fair trial. To this demand the American people seemed to agree and Mr. Bryan simply took both him and them at their word.

Finally, and this is the most heinous fault of all, they say that Bryan is without executive experience. Identically the same charge was made against Abraham Lincoln.

William J. Bryan is precisely the kind of man needed by both the democratic party and by the nation at large to bring true democracy and Americanism to the front. In New York state the trading politicians should go to the rear and men of conviction to the van. When that is done the democracy of the Empire State will take its place again at the head of the column, as it did in the days of "Olden."

The election of Bryan will bring about that result and will mean a new day in the state and nation—J. A. Edgerton, in Cold Springs (N. Y.) Sentinel.

DEMOCRATIC SPEAKING

Congressman Stephen M. Sparkman of Tampa and Hon. George C. Martin of Brooksville made addresses to a fairly good audience at the court house Saturday morning.

Hon. R. A. Burford, member of the congressional committee from this country, presided at the meeting and introduced the speakers.

Mr. Burford took occasion briefly to allude to the presidential canvass in his introductory remarks. He said that the American people had been taught to have great veneration for the presidential office and for its occupant. That he was supposed to be president of the whole people, and as such he was respected and loved, and until now the president of the United States had so conducted himself as to be respected as is no other ruler on earth. That President Theodore Roosevelt was the first in the line of presidents who had been so forgetful of his high office as to take a personal participation in the campaign and had destroyed the dignity of his exalted position, and that his son-in-law had announced that it was the purpose of Mr. Roosevelt to have Mr. Taft elected for two terms, and after that to occupy the presidential chair himself for two more terms, thus making it a family affair and a matter of his dictation. That if such a thing is permitted the republic will lose its character and become imperialized.

Mr. Burford then introduced Mr. Martin, presidential elector.

Mr. Martin was a delegate to the Denver convention and told very vividly of the scenes enacted there, the unanimity with which the platform was adopted, the unification of the warring factions of the party and the unanimous nomination of Mr. Bryan for the presidency. There was nothing like it in the history of parties in this country, and that it was a talisman of success. He told how the republicans laid the panic of a few years ago to the democratic party, and now have tried to place the present panic on the shoulders of Providence. That in the very midst of our most prosperous era there was thrust upon the country by the reckless policies of President Roosevelt a panic that put two million people out of employment and a paralysis on every artery of commerce.

The distinguished orator spoke along these lines for about an hour. He was listened to attentively, and at the conclusion of his address was very roundly applauded.

Mr. Sparkman was then introduced by Mr. Burford and was received with very generous and hearty applause.

Mr. Sparkman said that it always gave him pleasure to visit Ocala because he saw here so many evidences

of thrift and enterprise. He said that in the line of his duties as a member of the rivers and harbors committee that he had visited nearly every county in Florida, and that he had seen no county in which the court house showed up so well nor the grounds surrounding it were so pleasing to the eye as in Marion. He said that he took great pleasure in working to have a public building erected in our city, and that it was gratifying for him to state that he had succeeded in obtaining \$20,000 more appropriation than the estimates had called for. He said that in his efforts to get an appropriation for the improvement of the Oklawaha river he was balked because he was told that there must first be a survey before an appropriation would follow. In searching among the congressional archives he was fortunate in finding an old survey of many years' standing, and armed with it he succeeded in getting an appropriation for its improvement.

The congressman then branched off on national questions and said one of the most important questions was the gradual encroachment and usurpation of the federal authority over the reserved rights of the state, and that as long as the republican party continues in power these usurpations would grow greater until finally, unless the party was defeated, all state lines would be wholly and completely obliterated.

By his magnificent effort Mr. Sparkman strengthened his hold on the voters of this county, and he can always count upon the friendship of the voters here.

His speech was illustrated with anecdotes, and was very pleasantly received.

Mr. Burford stated that Mr. Harris, editor of the Ocala Banner, had been appointed to receive contributions to the democratic national fund, and that these contributions were entirely voluntary, and that none would be received after the fifteenth of October. That if anyone in the audience desired to make a contribution that it would be received, and the following persons responded:

Mr. Samuel R. Pyles, \$5; Dr. J. E. Chace, \$2; Judge W. S. Bullock, \$1; Mr. J. M. T. Christian, \$1; Mr. H. W. Long, \$1; Mr. J. A. Ausley, \$1; Mr. John F. Parker, \$1; Mr. E. F. Forbes, \$1; a Daughter of the Confederacy, \$1.

Among those in the audience we noted the following: Messrs. H. W. Long, L. P. Miller, M. Atkinson, S. R. Pyles, Edwin Spencer, W. T. Forbes, E. F. Forbes, J. H. Workman, Adam C. White, W. D. Carn, W. S. Bullock, W. L. Ditto, C. C. Carroll, W. H. Dodge, J. M. Thompson, O. T. Green, J. A. Pittman, J. M. T. Christian, Henry Bates, J. P. Phillips, C. L. Bittinger, C. C. Priest, H. E. Robinson, Miss Carrie Miller, and a score of others.

LANDSLIDE FOR BRYAN

The Boston Herald: In a recent editorial you said "New England is not interested in the guarantee of bank deposits." If you had chanced to be in Providence on a certain morning last October, as I was, and see the long line of men, women and children that coiled around and still around the Union Trust company building waiting for the bank to open (which it never did), and had watched the ever lengthening line forming outside other financial institutions—What! will the lines stretch out unto the crack of doom?—you would not have made this statement.

That the Boston clearing house issued certificates last fall is enough to prove that New England is vitally interested in this most important plank of the democratic platform.

Again, it will act as a salutary check to the attempt of certain cliques to monopolize the banking business in Boston on the ground that large banks are the more safe.

The tremendous power that the national bank system gives to irresponsible oligarchies will be considerably moderated by making "national" banks truly national.

This is the strongest plank in the democratic platform and is going to be a factor in the great landslide in November for William Jennings Bryan. Yours truly,

ARTHUR B. FLANIGAN.
Cambridge.

RIPE TOMATOES

Already fresh ripe tomatoes have made their appearance on the local market, one of the grocery stores of the city having a nice lot on hand yesterday. The fruit is of exceptionally fine size and quality and found a ready sale. A great many of the farmers have found that there is money to be made in growing early vegetables for the Miami market, and now there is a plentiful supply in town each season before the main shipments to the north begin to go forward. Not only tomatoes are showing up, but oranges and grapefruit are arriving in the city each week, showing that there is going to be a good supply of fruit on and throughout the winter.—Miami Record.

THE BRYAN AND KERN CAMPAIGN FUND

No contributions to the Bryan and Kern campaign fund will be received after tomorrow by this paper.

The contributions have been almost entirely voluntary—most of the contributions reaching this office either through the mails or by the contributors calling in person.

It will be seen that the fund totals \$145.50.

If it will reach the sum of \$150 the editor of this paper will feel not only satisfied but highly gratified.

The democratic party has relied solely on small contributions from the "common people" for the conduct of the campaign, and the contributions that have flowed in from all sections have been ample.

It shows that the mass of the people are praying for the triumph of this party, and if their prayers are answered good government will follow.

We take pleasure in presenting the list of the contributors to this fund in this county.

Cut the list out and put it in your political scrap book for future reference:

Ocala Banner.....	\$ 5.00
George MacKay.....	5.00
E. W. Davis.....	5.00
R. A. Burford.....	3.00
Wm. Hocker.....	2.00
Jas E. Chace.....	2.00
R. D. Fuller.....	1.00
W. S. Bullock.....	1.00
E. P. Thagard.....	1.00
E. L. Parr.....	1.00
Baxter Carn.....	1.00
S. H. Martin.....	1.00
J. G. Ferguson.....	1.00
G. A. Nash.....	1.00
Geo. C. Pasteur.....	1.00
T. W. Troxler.....	1.00
J. J. Gerig.....	1.00
W. P. Edwards.....	1.00
Joseph Bell.....	1.00
T. E. Pasteur.....	1.00
C. C. Carroll.....	1.00
W. W. Clyatt.....	1.00
Asher Frank.....	1.00
Henry Sistrunk.....	1.00
A. J. Brigrance.....	1.00
C. H. Lloyd.....	1.00
L. P. Miller.....	1.00
J. P. Phillips.....	1.00
Free Trader.....	1.00
J. C. Booser.....	1.00
J. M. Tison.....	1.00
Henry Gordon.....	1.00
L. N. Green.....	1.00
C. L. Bittinger.....	1.00
Dr. Dan Morgan Smith.....	1.00
Mrs. Dan Morgan Smith.....	1.00
L. F. Ballard.....	1.00
W. D. Carn.....	1.00
S. H. Blitch.....	1.00
J. P. Galloway.....	1.00
Will T. Gavy.....	1.00
J. H. Brinson.....	1.00
W. H. Clark, Jr.....	1.00
W. H. Clark, Sr.....	1.00
Capt. W. L. Ditto.....	1.00
Thos. A. Proctor.....	1.00
Alfred Ayer.....	1.00
R. R. Carroll.....	1.00
B. L. O'Neal.....	1.00
L. T. Izlar.....	1.00
John M. Graham.....	1.00
E. C. Bennett.....	1.00
E. L. Carney.....	1.00
S. A. Rawls.....	1.00
J. M. Meffert.....	1.00
D. E. Melver.....	1.00
John H. Taylor.....	1.00
Richard S. Hall.....	1.00
F. W. Ditto.....	1.00
J. M. T. Christian.....	1.00
Daughter of the Confederacy.....	2.00
S. T. Sistrunk.....	1.00
R. L. Keating.....	1.00
E. M. Howard.....	1.00
C. W. Hunter.....	1.00
E. L. Maloney.....	1.00
G. S. Scott.....	1.00
Dr. H. C. Dozier.....	1.00
E. T. Helvenston.....	1.00
H. B. Clarkson.....	1.00
Tompkins & Cobb.....	1.00
Cash.....	1.00
W. H. Knight.....	1.00
J. M. Liddell, Santos.....	1.00
F. M. Townsend, Martin.....	1.00
R. W. Martin, Martin.....	1.00
G. W. Allsop, Weirsdale.....	1.00
John T. Lewis, Moss Bluff.....	1.00
W. E. Martin, Moss Bluff.....	1.00
E. S. Grace, Citronelle.....	1.00
R. F. Rogers, Lynne.....	2.00
M. Atkinson, Berlin.....	1.00
L. L. Hopkins, Belleview.....	1.00
E. D. Rou, Reddick.....	1.00
A. B. Rou, Reddick.....	1.00
L. S. Light, Reddick.....	1.00
H. A. Wartmann, Citra.....	1.00
E. L. Wartmann, Citra.....	1.00
T. L. Sherouse, Citra.....	1.00
A. J. Douglas, Citra.....	1.00
R. K. Wartmann, Citra.....	1.00
Stephen Townsend, Citra.....	1.00
R. C. Douglass, Citra.....	1.00
M. J. Timmons, Citra.....	1.00
W. J. Crosby, Citra.....	1.00
Frank D. Howard, Citra.....	1.00
Dr. M. M. Connor, Citra.....	1.00
W. E. Allen, McIntosh.....	1.00
S. H. Galtskill, McIntosh.....	1.00
L. T. Hickson, McIntosh.....	1.00
E. T. Forbes, Anthony.....	1.00
James W. Colbert, Sparr.....	1.00
John B. Malloy, Sparr.....	2.50
Walter Luffman, Sparr.....	2.50
John W. Luffman, Sparr.....	2.50
P. L. Billingsley, Oak.....	1.00
G. U. Ellis, Oak.....	1.00

R. B. Dyal, Oak.....	1.00
W. E. Morrison, Oak.....	1.00
T. I. Arnold, Oak.....	1.00
A. M. Bobbitt, Oak.....	1.00
H. W. Long, Martel.....	1.00
P. A. Ausley, Martel.....	1.00
John F. Parker, Martel.....	1.00
Samuel R. Pyles, Shady.....	5.00
W. V. Ausley, Umatilla.....	1.00
V. B. VanNess, Inverness.....	1.00
M. L. Payne, Fairfield.....	1.00

Total.....\$145.50

Additional Contributions

Geo. A. Petteway, Leroy.....	\$ 1.00
A. H. Yonque, Fairfield.....	1.00
J. D. Robertson.....	1.00
Jas. R. Moorhead.....	2.00
Frank D. Turner.....	1.00
A Friend to the Cause.....	1.00

Total.....\$152.50

STANDS WITH LIGHT

Conner, Fla., Oct. 8, 1908.

To the Editor Ocala Banner:

I was glad to note from a communication of Mr. L. S. Light, in your paper of last week, that he would vote against the constitutional amendment at the general election in November, proposing to raise the state taxes one mill for the benefit of the University at Gainesville, the Blind, Deaf and Dumb School at St. Augustine, and the two schools at Tallahassee, one for white girls and the other for negroes.

If Mr. Light's figures are correct—which I do not doubt—the University and the colored normal school are nicely provided for by the United States government, and never forgotten by the Florida legislature in making appropriations. Under our present law each county can levy seven mills on the ad valorem assessment, three mills as the sub-school districts may determine, and one mill is fixed by the constitution, thus making eleven mills, or one dollar and ten cents on every one hundred dollars assessed on property for school purposes. In addition to this, many thousands of dollars are appropriated by the legislatures for the annual support of the four institutions above named out of the general and special funds of the state.

I think this quite enough for the present, considering the financial depression, and shall vote with Mr. Light against the constitutional amendment, raising our taxes another mill. I sincerely hope a majority of the voters of the state will do likewise at the November election.

There is another amendment to the constitution the writer will vote against, viz: Giving the legislature the power to increase the salaries of supreme and circuit court judges. At present the constitution fixes the salaries of these judges. Two years ago an amendment to the constitution, raising the salaries of these officers was submitted to the people for ratification and was voted down by the tax payers. Now an amendment is offered seeking to leave the raising of their salaries to the legislature. It will be remembered that we have now in our sparsely populated state six judges on the supreme bench and eight on the circuit bench, while in other states, with more than double our population, their supreme courts are composed of three judges only.

The writer is opposed to so many efforts to amend the constitution. He was one of the framers of the present original organic law of 1832, which was submitted to the people and ratified in 1838 by an overwhelming majority. That constitution provides for "home rule"—local option in Article XIX, for the sale of spirituous liquors, wines and beer, which has proven a blessing to the state. Our friend, Mr. Light, publicly proclaimed from the rostrum while a candidate before the primaries for the legislature, that if he was elected he would vote for an amendment to the constitution for state-wide prohibition. I can only hope Mr. Light has changed his mind on this question, since a majority of the voters in the democratic primary of last June so emphatically expressed themselves against such an amendment by voting for "Local Option" Gilchrist for governor. If he has not changed his mind to again try to amend the constitution he has a good excuse to do so, since his own people have spoken their desires on the subject by their ballots in the last primary. Let a majority rule on all public questions, is my politics.

Yours, for Bryan and Kern, and better times.
R. F. ROGERS.

CUT GLASS

In order to close out our line of Fine Cut Glass, we will during the week, Monday, October 12 to Saturday, October 17, sell at greatly reduced prices.
Weibe, The Jeweler.

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC ELECTORS

H. P. BAILEY.
P. W. BUTLER.
ROBERT E. DAVIS.
GEORGE C. MARTIN.
SAMUEL PASCO.